

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for inserting input into an electronic document page comprising:

placing a pointer on the electronic document page;

in response to placing the pointer on the electronic document page, scanning the electronic document page for an existing object; and

if an existing object is detected in scanning the electronic document page:

selecting a content-based guideline of the existing object that is adjacent to the pointer, the content-based guideline being selected from a plurality of content-based guidelines by applying rules to determine which one of the plurality of content-based guidelines is dominant, the plurality of content-based guidelines comprising the following: a gravity parameter defining a distance beyond which the plurality of content-based guidelines are suppressed, vertical lines and horizontal lines defined by an equation of a line, the vertical lines being attached to content features of the existing object and the horizontal lines being aligned to text comprising the existing object wherein applying the rules to determine which one of the plurality of content-based guidelines is dominant comprises one of the following: using guideline hierarchy and applying the rules with guideline dominance being a function of page position; and

aligning the pointer to the content-based guideline for inserting the input.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the input comprises a document object.
3. (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein the content-based guideline is an existing content-based guideline, and
wherein the input document object comprises content, and
wherein the method further comprises the step of identifying an input content-based guideline of the input document object, and
wherein the aligning step comprises positioning the content of the input document object on the page so that the input content-based guideline is aligned to the existing content-based guideline.
4. (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein the input document object comprises a graphic.
5. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein the input document object further comprises textual content.
6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the input comprises text.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the existing object comprises text and the content-based guideline is horizontally aligned with the text.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the existing object comprises text and the content-based guideline is a vertical guideline that is aligned to a format feature of the text.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the existing object comprises text and the content-based guideline is aligned to a reflow bar of the existing object.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of:
if no existing object is detected in the scanning step, inserting input at the placement of the pointer.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein:
the existing object comprises existing text;
the input comprises input text;
the content-based guideline is aligned with a feature of the existing text; and
the aligning step further comprises aligning the input text to the content-based guideline.

12. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage device storing a set of computer-executable instructions for inserting input in an electronic page by performing:

- placing a pointer in an electronic page;
- scanning the electronic page for existing objects;
- determining a dominant existing object;
- identifying content guidelines of the dominant existing object;
- selecting a content guideline of the dominant existing object according to its position on the electronic page relative to the pointer, the content guideline being selected from a plurality of content-based guidelines comprising the following: a gravity parameter defining a distance beyond which the plurality of content-based guidelines are suppressed, vertical lines and horizontal lines defined by an equation of a line stored on the computer-readable storage device, the vertical lines being attached to content features of the dominant existing object and the horizontal lines being aligned to text comprising the dominant existing object wherein at least one of the vertical lines intersects substantially perpendicularly with at least one of the horizontal lines; and
- creating a new object wherein the content of the new object is aligned with the selected content guideline of the dominant existing object.

13. (Original) The device of Claim 12, wherein the selecting step comprises selecting the content guideline of the dominant existing object that is closest on the electronic page to the pointer.

14. (Original) The device of Claim 12, wherein the determining step comprises determining a dominant existing object on the basis of position on the electronic page.

15. (Original) The device of Claim 12, wherein the determining step comprises determining that the existing object that is closest to the left side of the electronic page is the dominant existing object.

16. (Original) The device of Claim 12, wherein the determining step comprises determining that the existing object that is closest to the top side of the electronic page is the dominant existing object.

17. (Original) The device of Claim 12, wherein the determining step further comprises identifying the existing object that is closest to the top left corner of the electronic page.

18.-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A system for inserting input into an electronic document page, the system comprising:

a memory storage for maintaining a database; and

a processing unit coupled to the memory storage, wherein the processing unit is operative to:

place a pointer on the electronic document page;

scan the electronic document page for an existing object in response to placing the pointer on the electronic document page;

select, if an existing object is detected in scanning the electronic document page, a content-based guideline of the existing object that is adjacent to the pointer, the content-based guideline being selected from a plurality of content-based guidelines by applying rules to determine which one of the plurality of content-based guidelines is dominant, the plurality of content-based guidelines comprising the following: a gravity parameter defining a distance beyond which the plurality of content-based guidelines are suppressed, vertical lines and horizontal lines defined by an equation of a line, the vertical lines being attached to content features of the existing object and the horizontal lines being aligned to text comprising the existing object, the plurality of content-based guidelines configured to move with the existing object when the existing object is moved; and

align, if an existing object is detected in scanning the electronic document page, the pointer to the content-based guideline for inserting the input.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the processing unit being operative to align further comprises the processing unit being operative to align before text has been received for the input.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the processing unit being operative to align further comprises the processing unit being operative to align after text has been received for the input.